

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Janice DeFrances, Ed.D.
Director
Department of Children, Youth and Families

DATE: December 28, 2012

SUBJECT: DCYF Rules Effective on January 22, 2013

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, the Department is adopting and amending DCYF rules. These rules comply with good child welfare, mental health and juvenile justice practice. The rules are accessible on the DCYF website (<http://www.dcyf.ri.gov>) and the Secretary of State's Rules and Regulations Database (<http://sos.ri.gov/rules/>). Please address any questions about these rules to:

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101 Friendship Street
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Adopted

Department Employees as Foster Parents – This rule reflects long standing Department practice and best practices in accordance with recommendations from the Child Welfare League of America and requires Department employees seeking to foster children to do so through licensed child placing agencies.

Suspension Of Employees Driver's License – This amended rule reflects best practice and requirements necessary to perform the job duties as specified in the State position titles. The final rule included additional job classifications which require a valid Driver's License.

Amended

Child Fatality and Near Fatality Response – This amended rule reflects updates to the Administration for Children & Families Child Abuse and Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) policy regarding the information that must be disclosed to the public about a case of child abuse or neglect that results in a fatality or near fatality.

Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers - Notice of Court Proceedings – This rule is amended to include the Foster Parent Court Hearing Report Form (DCYF #083A), which allows caregivers who are unable or do not wish to attend the Family Court proceedings to provide information to the Court on the well-being of the child in their care.

Residential Child Care Regulations For Licensure – This amended rule clarifies the limitations regarding the usage of "time out" as defined by RIGL 42-72.9 - Children's Right to Freedom From Restraint Act.